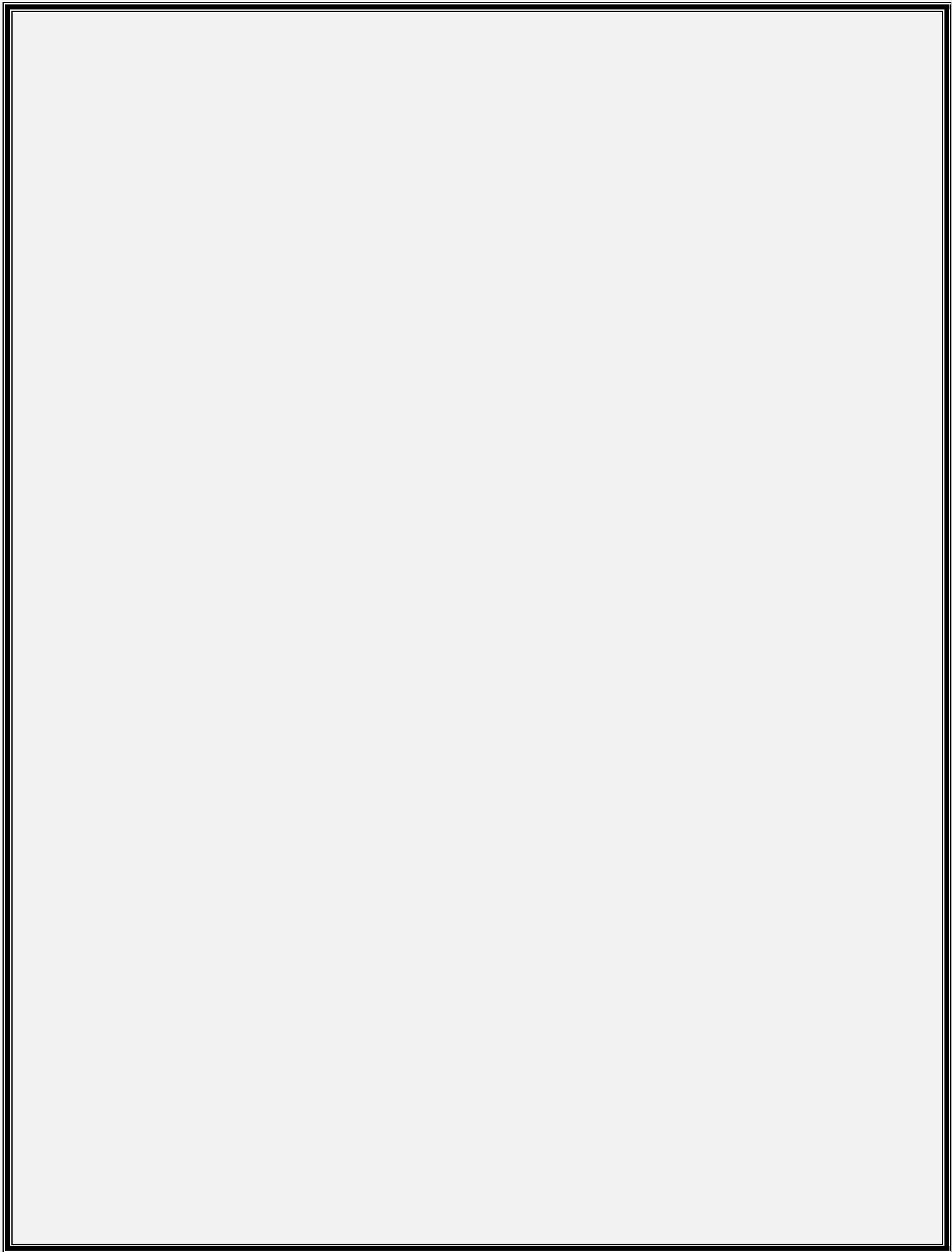




**Butte County  
2018  
Crop & Livestock Report**





## **BUTTE COUNTY**

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE / WEIGHTS & MEASURES

**316 NELSON AVE.**

**OROVILLE, CA 95965**

P: (530) 5552-4100 F: (530) 538-7594

**butteag@buttecounty.net**

*Louie B. Mendoza Jr.*

*Agricultural Commissioner / Sealer*

## *Katharine Quist*

*Assistant Agricultural Commissioner / Sealer*

September 24, 2019

Karen Ross  
Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture

## The Honorable Butte County Board of Supervisors

Steve Lambert, Chair

Tami Ritter

Debra Lucero

Doug Teeter

Bill Connell

Shari McCracken,  
Chief Administrative Officer

Dear Sirs and Madams,

In accordance with provisions of the California Food and Agriculture Code section 2279, I am submitting the 79<sup>th</sup> annual crop report that shows the agricultural production and agricultural value in Butte County for the 2018 calendar year. Our department has been providing annual crop reports since 1939.

This report is a summary estimate of the acreage, production and gross value of Butte County agricultural products. The values presented in this report are gross values only, and do not reflect net farm income or costs of production and marketing.

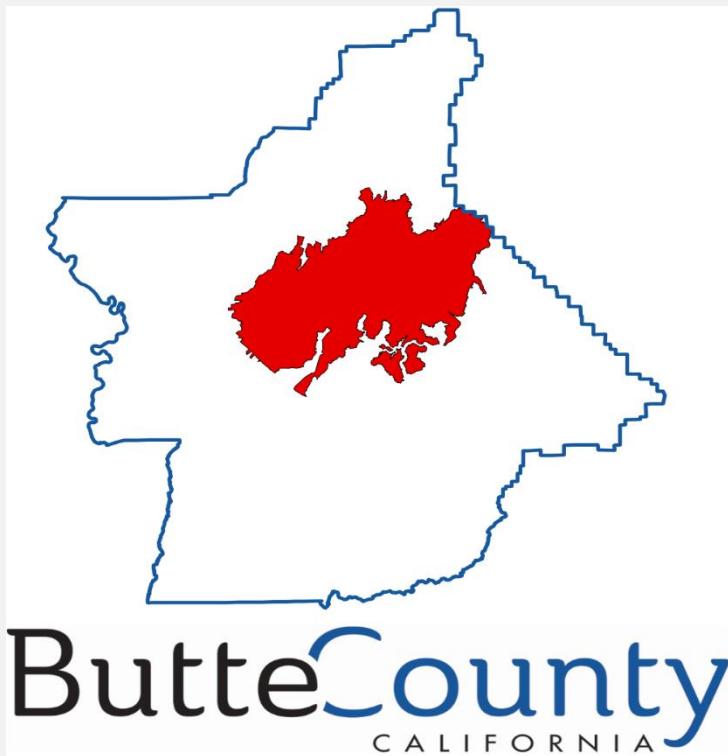
The estimated gross value of agricultural production in Butte County for 2018 totaled **\$631,798,727**. This is a \$64,764,487 decrease over the 2017 gross value total of \$696,563,214. The total gross value of agriculture during 2018 is 10% less than our county 10-year average of \$701,837,255.

I wish to extend my appreciation to the many producers, processors and agencies, both private and governmental, who assist with this report by providing us with specific information pertaining to their business. I would also like to thank the staff of the Butte County Agriculture Department for compiling this report.

Respectfully submitted,

Louie B. Mendoza Jr.

Agricultural Commissioner  
Director of Weights & Measures



The Butte County Department of Agriculture dedicates the 2018 Crop Report to the  
Citizens of Butte County and all First Responders

On the morning of November 8, 2018, Butte County suffered the deadliest and most destructive wildfire in California's history. The Camp Fire quickly destroyed 153,336 acres, burned almost 19,000 homes, business and other structures in Paradise, Paradise Pines, Magalia, Concow, Yankee Hill, Pulga, Butte Creek Canyon, Butte Valley and surrounding areas and claimed 85 lives. The wildfire displaced approximately 52,000 Butte County residents. Our agricultural community was also impacted by loss, including winter grazing lands, apiaries, nurseries, organic production sites, vineyards, timber and various livestock.

Throughout the tough times following this tragedy, Butte County has shown great resilience. Our community has come together even stronger than before and exemplifying the true meaning of "Butte Strong".

# Agricultural and Weights & Measures Staff and Associates

## **Agricultural Commissioner / Director of Weights & Measures**

Louie B. Mendoza Jr.

## **Assistant Agricultural Commissioner / Director of Weights & Measures**

Tom A. Pisani

## **Deputy Directors of Agriculture / Weights & Measures**

Rob Hill & Katharine Quist

## **Administrative Analyst, Associate**

Charmaigne Damron

## **Accounting Specialists**

Friede Violante & Janice Wallick

## **Supervisor, Agricultural Biologist / Weights & Measures**

Randy Hartman & Ramon Jauregui

## **Agricultural Biologist / Weights & Measures Inspector, Senior**

Eric Jennings, Uriah Johnson, Eric Pittman, Dan Shrout, Robbie Towne, Sonia Zarate

## **Agricultural Biologist / Weights & Measures Inspector III**

Apolinar Barrales

## **Agricultural Biologist / Weights & Measures Inspector I**

George Mendoza

## **Agricultural Technicians**

Lee Hunt, Jose Torres, Brandon Williams

## **GIS Technician**

George Adams

## **USDA Wildlife Specialist**

Matt Albertsen

## **Butte County Agricultural Commissioner's Mission Statement**

*Protect and perpetuate agriculture, the #1 industry in Butte County, by ensuring a safe and healthy agriculture product. Promote and provide confidence of buyers and sellers by ensuring fairness in local, national and international trade. Protect and promote the wellbeing of all our customers and our community through the fair, equitable application of agricultural and weights and measures standards, emphasizing education and cooperation, including the use of technology to enhance customer service.*

# MILLION DOLLAR AG COMMODITIES

<b>Rice</b>	<b>\$161,253,000</b>
<b>Almonds</b>	<b>\$155,437,832</b>
<b>Walnuts</b>	<b>\$154,558,362</b>
<b>Prunes</b>	<b>\$31,489,848</b>
<b>Nursery Stock</b>	<b>\$18,806,821</b>
<b>Harvested Timber</b>	<b>\$15,911,852</b>
<b>Cattle &amp; Calves</b>	<b>\$11,268,562</b>
<b>Peaches</b>	<b>\$9,870,000</b>
<b>Rice Seed</b>	<b>\$9,838,040</b>
<b>Apiary, Pollination</b>	<b>\$8,541,474</b>
<b>Fruit &amp; Nut, Misc.</b>	<b>\$5,546,772</b>
<b>Olive, Oil</b>	<b>\$3,585,653</b>
<b>Almond Hulls</b>	<b>\$3,140,000</b>
<b>Pistachios</b>	<b>\$3,120,000</b>
<b>Field Crops. Misc.</b>	<b>\$3,012,240</b>
<b>Apiary, Other Products</b>	<b>\$2,798,445</b>
<b>Citrus</b>	<b>\$2,670,000</b>
<b>Kiwifruit</b>	<b>\$2,079,168</b>
<b>Pasture, Irrigated</b>	<b>\$1,800,000</b>
<b>Vegetables</b>	<b>\$1,681,283</b>
<b>Pasture, Other</b>	<b>\$1,450,000</b>
<b>Milk, Market &amp; Manufacturing</b>	<b>\$1,196,710</b>

## **FIVE YEAR SUMMARY OF CROP VALUES**

CROP	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>APIARY PRODUCTS</b>	\$10,865,340	\$10,586,121	\$10,586,121	\$11,198,212	\$11,339,919
<b>FIELD CROPS</b>	\$168,290,698	\$151,013,590	\$135,340,039	\$153,907,456	\$168,499,501
<b>FRUIT &amp; NUT CROPS</b>	\$556,649,028	\$532,653,396	\$475,230,758	\$453,611,637	\$372,212,935
<b>LIVESTOCK</b>	\$12,520,000	\$12,781,800	\$14,478,648	\$12,744,180	\$12,342,133
<b>NURSERY STOCK</b>	\$17,819,000	\$14,111,000	\$11,664,000	\$13,877,606	\$18,806,821
<b>SEED CROPS</b>	\$18,683,294	\$14,091,107	\$14,677,834	\$12,186,168	\$10,288,040
<b>VEGETABLE CROPS</b>	\$1,503,000	\$1,743,626	\$1,524,973	\$1,601,222	\$1,681,283
<b>ORGANIC CROPS</b>	\$15,935,500	\$21,930,572	\$23,759,940	\$23,902,017	\$20,716,243
<b>CROP TOTALS</b>	\$802,265,860	\$758,911,212	\$687,262,313	\$683,028,498	\$615,886,875
<b>TIMBER</b>	\$8,639,538	\$13,728,672	\$8,525,004	\$13,534,716	\$15,911,852
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$810,905,398</b>	<b>\$772,639,884</b>	<b>\$695,787,317</b>	<b>\$696,563,214</b>	<b>\$631,798,727</b>

## **FIVE YEAR SUMMARY OF PLANT CROP ACRES**

CROP	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>FIELD CROPS</b>	337,989	311,061	321,932	309,483	253,644
<b>FRUIT &amp; NUT CROPS</b>	97,237	101,486	101,446	101,409	107,299
<b>SEED CROPS</b>	6,590	6,647	6,176	5,492	5,533
<b>VEGETABLE CROPS</b>	708	817	674	603	615
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>442,524</b>	<b>420,011</b>	<b>430,228</b>	<b>416,987</b>	<b>367,091</b>



# 2018 FRUIT & NUT CROPS ACREAGE STATISTICS

ORCHARD CROPS	BEARING	NON-BEARING	TOTAL
ALMONDS	40,411	1,445	41,856
APPLES	51	0	51
APRICOTS	20	0	20
AVOCADOS	3	0	3
CHERRIES	3	0	3
CHESTNUTS	50	0	50
GRAPES (Table & Raisin)	7	0	7
GRAPES (Wine)	191	3	194
KIWIFRUIT	560	0	560
MANDARINS	99	0	99
NECTARINES	4	0	4
OLIVES (Oil)	948	0	948
OLIVES (Table)	283	0	283
ORANGES	98	0	98
PEACHES, CLINGSTONE	1,461	20	1,481
PEACHES, FREESTONE	39	0	39
PEARS	8	0	8
PECANS	280	16	296
PERSIMMONS	96	14	110
PISTACHIOS	625	0	625
PLUMS	108	0	108
PRUNES	7,800	150	7,950
WALNUTS, ENGLISH	53,909	3,648	57,557
WALNUTS, BLACK	22	1	23
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>107,076</b>	<b>5,297</b>	<b>112,373</b>

Data from California Crop and Livestock Reporting Service and other sources



## 2018 FRUIT & NUT CROPS ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Crop	Year	Bearing (ac)	Yield (tons)	Yield (tons) / Bearing (ac)	Value (\$)/ 1 (ton)	Total (\$)
ALMONDS	2018	40,411	32,329	0.80	\$4,808	\$155,437,832
	2017	39,575	29,681	0.75	\$4,656	\$138,194,736
HULLS	2018	--	32,000	--	\$97	\$3,140,000
	2017	--	36,000	--	\$60	\$2,160,000
CITRUS	2018	200	1,200	6.00	\$2,225	\$2,670,000
	2017	212	742	3.50	\$2,000	\$1,484,000
KIWIFRUIT	2018	560	3,136	5.60	\$663	\$2,079,168
	2017	579	3,445	5.95	\$645	\$2,222,025
OLIVES (OIL)	2018	948	4,987	5.26	\$719	\$3,585,653
	2017	998	4,870	4.85	\$599	\$2,899,160
OLIVES (TABLE)	2018	283	753	2.66	\$950	\$715,300
	2017	333	1,202	3.61	\$876	\$1,052,952
PEACHES	2018	1,500	21,000	14.00	\$470	\$9,870,000
	2017	1,384	18,684	13.50	\$425	\$7,940,700
PISTACHIOS	2018	625	650	1.04	\$4,800	\$3,120,000
	2017	765	490	0.64	\$4,465	\$2,187,850
PRUNES	2018	7,800	15,912	2.04	\$1,979	\$31,489,848
	2017	6,719	16,529	2.46	\$2,130	\$35,206,770
WALNUTS	2018	53,909	122,374	2.27	\$1,263	\$154,558,362
	2017	49,832	119,529	2.40	\$2,132	\$254,980,804
MISC. *	2018	1,063	--	--	--	\$5,546,772
	2017	1,012	--	--	--	\$5,282,640
TOTAL	2018	107,299	--	--	--	\$372,212,935
	2017	101,409	--	--	--	\$453,611,637

\* Misc. includes apples, apricots, cherry, chestnut, fig, nectarine, pear, asian pear, pecan, plum, pomegranate, etc.



## 2018 FIELD CROP ACREAGE, PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Crop	Year	Bearing (ac)	Yield (tons)	Yield (tons) / Bearing (ac)	Value (\$)/ 1 (ton)	Total
BEANS, DRY EDIBLE	2018	156	297	1.90	\$1,088	\$323,136
	2017	429	558	1.30	\$1,098	\$612,684
ALFALFA	2018	473	3,075	6.50	\$215	\$661,125
	2017	470	3,135	6.67	\$156	\$489,060
PASTURE, IRRIGATED	2018	12,000	--	--	\$150	\$1,800,000
	2017	13,000	--	--	\$150	\$1,950,000
PASTURE, OTHER	2018	145,000	--	--	\$10	\$1,450,000
	2017	195,000	--	--	\$10	\$1,950,000
RICE	2018	92,250	424,350	4.60	\$380	\$161,253,000
	2017	93,444	411,154	4.40	\$354	\$145,548,516
MISC. *	2018	3,765	--	--	--	\$3,012,240
	2017	3,586	--	--	--	\$2,868,800
TOTAL	2018	253,644	--	--	--	\$168,499,501
	2017	309,483	--	--	--	\$153,419,060

\* Misc. includes barley, corn, forage hay, hops, mustard, oat, ryegrass, sorghum milo, sudan grass, vetch, wheat etc.

## 2018 APIARY PRODUCTS, PRODUCTION & VALUE

	YEAR	PRODUCTION (COLONIES)	VALUE PER COLONY	TOTAL
POLLINATION	2018	46,006	\$185.66	\$8,541,474
	2017	46,506	\$185.40	\$8,622,212
OTHER APIARY PRODUCTS	2018	--	--	\$2,798,445
	2017	--	--	\$2,576,000
TOTAL	2018			\$11,339,919
	2017			\$11,198,212





## 2018 REGISTERED ORGANIC STATISTICS

11,718 Acres • 83 Producers • 20 Handlers • 3 Processors • 0 Retailers  
Total Value \$20,716,243

*Includes alfalfa, almonds, apples, berries, cherries, cut flowers, grapes, herbs, kiwi fruit, livestock, dairy, mandarins, nursery stock, olives, peaches, persimmons, prunes, rice, safflower, tomatoes, vegetables, vetch, walnuts and wild rice.*

### **2018 VEGETABLE VALUE**

2018 Total Value - \$1,681,283

2017 Total Value - \$1,601,222

*\*Vegetable Values reflect Certified Producer commodities such as asparagus, broccoli, corn, cucumbers, melons, onions, squash, tomatoes, strawberries, etc.*

### **2018 NURSERY ACREAGE & VALUE**

2018 Total Acres – 119 --- \$18,806,821

2017 Total Acres - 163 --- \$13,877,606

*\*Nursery data includes broad leaved evergreens, coniferous evergreens, deciduous fruit, nut and shade trees, shrubs, kiwi vines, herbaceous perennials, indoor decorative plants, bulbs, rhizomes, bedding plants, and specimen trees.*

### **2018 HARVEST TIMBER PRODUCTION & VALUE**

	YEAR	PRODUCTION (BFT)	VALUE
<b>HARVESTED TIMBER</b>	2018	60,920,000	\$15,911,852
	2017	61,485,000	\$13,529,289
<b>OTHER TIMBER PRODUCTS</b>	2018	--	\$0
	2017	--	\$5,427
<b>TOTAL</b>	2018	--	\$15,911,852
	2017	--	\$13,534,716

*\*Board feet is the quantity of timber cut and scaled.*

*\*\*Timber production and value data are provided by State Board of Equalization, Timber Tax Division.*



## 2018 LIVESTOCK

	YEAR	NUMBER OF HEAD	TOTAL LIVE WEIGHT (CWT)	VALUE/CWT	TOTAL
CATTLE & CALVES	2018	14,200	65,325	\$172.50	\$11,268,562
	2017	12,700	64,008	\$181.50	\$11,617,452
SHEEP	2018	1,700	2,724	\$154.00	\$419,496
	2017	1,800	2,664	\$164.50	\$438,228
MISC.	2018	--	--	--	\$654,075
	2017	--	--	--	\$688,500
TOTAL	2018	--	--	--	\$12,342,133
	2017	--	--	--	\$12,744,180

Misc. may include hogs, poultry, goats, etc.

## 2018 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

ITEM	YEAR	TOTAL
MILK, MARKET & MANUFACTURING	2018	\$1,196,710
	2017	\$1,078,265



## 2018 SEED ACREAGE, PRODUCTION & VALUE

CROP	YEAR	ACREAGE	YIELD / ACRE	TOTAL	UNIT	VALUE	TOTAL
RICE	2018	5,233	9,400	49,190,200	lbs.	\$0.20	\$9,838,040
	2017	4,700	9,800	46,060,000	lbs.	\$0.24	\$11,054,400
MISC.	2018	300					\$450,000
	2017	792					\$1,131,768
TOTAL	2018	5,533					\$10,288,040
	2017	5,492					\$12,186,168

\*Miscellaneous may include bean, carrot, cucumber, melon, onion, pumpkin, squash, sunflower, watermelon seed, etc.



# 2018 PHYTOSANITARY EXPORTS

In 2018, a total of 2,050 phytosanitary certificates were issued and exported to 74 countries and 8 states within the United States. Shipments included a variety of fruits, vegetables, grains, beans, lumber and plants. Almonds, rice and walnuts are the top three exported commodities. In addition, approximately 900 seed field acres were inspected and certified during the 2018 season.

Afghanistan	Algeria	Argentina
Australia	Austria	Barbados
Bahrain	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Brazil
Bulgaria	Cambodia	Canada
China	Colombia	Costa Rica
Czech Republic	Denmark	Estonia
Egypt	France	French Polynesia
Georgia	Germany	Greece
Guatemala	Hong Kong	Hungary
India	Indonesia	Islamic Republic of Iran
Israel	Italy	Japan
Jordan	Kazakhstan	Kenya
Korea, Democratic People's Republic	Korea, Republic of	Kuwait
Latvia	Lebanon	Libya
Malaysia	Mexico	Mongolia
Morocco	Myanmar	Netherlands
New Zealand	Pakistan	Panama
Philippines	Poland	Portugal
Qatar	Saint Vincent & The Grenadines	Samoa
Saudi Arabia	Serbia	Singapore
South Africa	Spain	Sweden
Switzerland	Taiwan	Thailand
Trinidad & Tobago	Tunisia	Turkey
Ukraine	United Arab Emirates	United Kingdom
Viet Nam	Zimbabwe	

# 2018 SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL REPORT

This report summarizes the varied activities and the methods used to prevent and control the spread of exotic pests in Butte County.

The Pest Exclusion, Detection, Management, and Eradication programs serve to protect the County from an infestation of introduced pests. Through monitoring and quick response to small infestations, damaging pest populations can be controlled before they require a large-scale response.

Biological Control provides a method of sustainable pest control with a minimum impact to the environment.

## **PEST DETECTION**

A total of 1,014 traps were placed throughout the County to detect the presence of pests. The trap total included 300 Mediterranean, Oriental and Melon Fruit Fly traps, 77 Japanese Beetles traps, 214 traps for the Gypsy Moth, 233 Glassy-winged Sharpshooter traps, 156 Asian Citrus Psyllid traps, and 34 European Grapevine Moth traps.

## **PEST EXCLUSION**

Approximately 4,404 shipments were inspected for live exotic pests including the Glassy-winged Sharpshooter and Sudden Oak Death resulting in the issuance of 10 Notice of Rejections.

## **PEST MANAGEMENT**

### **Weed Control Projects**

		<b>Control Activity</b>	<b>Chemical</b>	<b>Distribution</b>
Skeleton Weed	<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>	Herbicide	Aminopyralid	5 sites ~ 15 acres
Knap Weed, species	<i>Centaurea species</i>	Herbicide	Aminopyralid	3 sites ~ 35 acres
Oblong Spurge	<i>Euphorbia oblongata</i>	Herbicide	Triclopyr	Paradise 1 site in Thermalito 1 site Chico
Sesbania	<i>Sesbania punicea</i>	Herbicide	Triclopyr	Multiple locations in Oroville
Broom, species				
Spanish	<i>Spartium junceum</i>	Herbicide	Triclopyr	Multiple County Locations
French	<i>Genista monspessulana</i>	Herbicide	Triclopyr	Multiple County Locations
Scotch	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	Herbicide	Triclopyr	Multiple County Locations
Purple Loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	Bio-control	Various Agents	>500 acres in Oroville
White Horsenettle	<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>	Herbicide	Triclopyr	1 site South Gridley Hwy 99
Winged-Water Primrose	<i>Ludwigia decurrens</i>	Herbicide	Glyphosate	Limited locations in Richvale

### **Insect Control Projects**

Glassy-winged Sharpshooter	<i>Homalodisca vitripennis</i>	<b>Control Activity</b>	<b>Chemical</b>	<b>Distribution</b>
		Insecticide	Imidacloprid	Chico, Eradicated

# Weights & Measures

## Ensuring the Integrity of Submeter Utility Billing

One of the ways the Butte County Weights and Measures Division upholds integrity in the marketplace is by testing and investigating complaints of domestic utility submeters and their associated billing charges. A submeter is an electric, gas (natural or propane) or water meter that is downstream from the providing utility's master-meter used to measure the portion used by an individual tenant or homeowner in a mobile home park, apartment building, or similar residential complex. Submeters are owned by the complex not the servicing utility, and must first be brought to our testing facility so we can

test their accuracy, performance and other legal requirements before they can be installed and used. In addition, these meters are required by law to be re-tested and certified every ten years. To help facilitate this process and reduce the burden and cost, we test ten percent of each complex's submeters annually. This ensures the retesting of all submeters within the ten-year inspection frequency.



Water meter test



Gas vapor meter test

responsible for the submeters, by law their rates must be used for submeter customers as well. The complex must bill their tenants the same utility residential rates as if they were being billed directly by the servicing utility.

In Butte County, we had seventy-two mobile home parks, apartment buildings, or similar residential complexes using over six thousand electric, gas and water submeters under our jurisdiction. Following

Since utility submeters are not owned by PG&E, the complex management is responsible for the accuracy of the submeters and for correct billing charges. Therefore, it is up to Weights and Measures to resolve any billing disputes between tenants and management. We investigate billing complaints by retesting the submeter, audit-billing statements, verify rate schedules and check for accurate computation of the bill. We also verify meter readings, examine seals and meter installations for correctness. Although PG&E is not

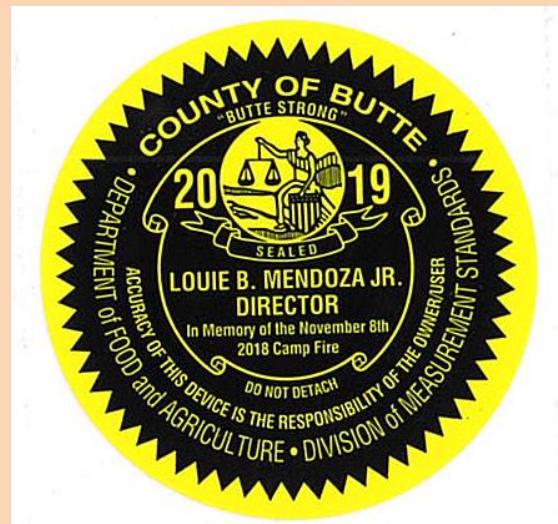
the catastrophe of the November 8, 2018 Camp Fire, twenty-four of those mobile home parks were destroyed, displacing thousands of people. Some of the mobile home park owners have said they plan to rebuild and reopen their parks, and were hopeful Paradise and the surrounding areas would rebuild into the vibrant community it once was. Some of their previous residents have also expressed a willingness to return in spite of the trauma and tragedy. The people of the area have shown a resolve and resilience second to none exemplifying what "Butte Strong" is all about. When these parks rebuild, state law requires that their electric and gas meters be owned, installed and billed directly through the servicing utility company. However, if the complex so chooses, they can submeter their water usage and in most cases this will be the most feasible option for the park. When that happens, we look forward to re-serving the park owners and tenants of Paradise and the surrounding areas helping to ensure integrity in the marketplace.



Electric meter test

As a tribute to Butte County's resilience and in memory of those affected by the November 8, 2018

Camp Fire, we added "Butte Strong" to our 2019 device seals in support of our community's strength to rebuild and heal during this difficult time.



**We are Butte Strong!**